

REMARKS

In the last office action, claims 1-3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 (second paragraph) as being indefinite. Specifically, the examiner questioned whether the location of the acoustic energy generating means, as described in claim 1, was sufficiently definite. For the reasons given below, applicants respectfully submit that the location of the acoustic energy generating means is distinctly described in claim 1.

In the office action, the examiner questioned the definition of the face of the resonator. Claim 1 specifies that the face of the resonator is formed by the distal end of the resonator, is rectangular in shape, and has the length "s" and the width "n." This is consistent with the specification which states that the face of the resonator is part of the distal end 50 and is rectangular in shape (Application, page 10, lines 3-6). Fig. 5 illustrates that the rectangular face has the length "L" or "s" and the width "n", and that the distal end 50 extends along the length "L" or "s." The distal end 50 is also shown in Figs. 2, 3, 8, 9 and 10 of the application, and in Fig. 4 where the distal side 88 is the same as the distal end 50.

In view of the language in claim 1 and the disclosure cited above, the examiner's statement that the length "s" extends from the proximal side to the distal side is incorrect, as is the statement that the face of the resonator is orthogonal to the angled sides and to the top and bottom sides. Rather, the face of the resonator is the distal end 50 of the resonator that extends along the length "L" or "s" as is shown in Fig. 8.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the acoustic energy generating means is attached to the proximal end of the resonator, and to clarify that the top side of the trapezoidal cross section is part of the proximal end. Claim 1 also states that the acoustic energy generating means is positioned over at least part of the face of the resonator. Referring to Fig. 3, which is a two-dimensional drawing, it can be seen that the crystal 34 is positioned over the distal end 50, at least in the plane of page on which Fig. 3 appears. The crystal 34 is the acoustic energy generating means, and since the crystal 34 is positioned over the distal end 50, Fig. 3 illustrates the transducer claimed in claim 1.

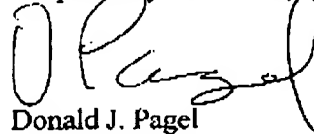
Additional support for the location of the acoustic energy generating means is found in Fig. 8 where the width "n" would go into the paper. The crystal 34 is shown as extending along the

entire length "s" of the distal end 50, and therefore must be positioned over at least part of the face of the resonator. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 does sufficiently specify the location of the acoustic energy generating means, especially when claim 1 is read with respect to Figs. 3 and 8.

Claims 2 and 3 are dependent on claim 1 and are therefore allowable for the same reasons given above with respect to claim 1.

In view of these amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 1-3 are in condition for allowance. Claims 7 and 9-18 were allowed previously. If a telephone conference with applicants' attorney would help answer any further questions, please contact the attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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